NUMB. CCCCXCIII.

The SPECTATOR.

Qualem commendes etiam atque etiam adſpice, ne mox
Incutiant aliena tibi peccata pudorem. Hor.

Thurſday, September 25. 1712.

IT is no unpleaſant matter of Speculation to conſider the recommendatory Epiſtles that paſs round this Town from Hand to Hand, and the Abuſe People put upon one another in that kind. It is indeed come to that Paſs, that inſtead being the Teſtimony of Merit in the Perſon recommended, the true Reading of a Letter of this ort is, *The Bearer hereof is ſo uneaſie to me, that will be an Act of Charity in you to take him off my Hands; whether you prefer him or not it is all one, for I have no manner of Kindneſs for him, or obligation to him or his; and do what you pleaſe as to that.* As negligent as Men are in this reſpect, Point of Honour is concerned in it, and there is nothing a Man ſhould be more aſhamed of, than ſuffering a worthleſs Creature into the Service or Intereſts of a Man who has never injured you. The Women indeed are a little too keen in their Reſentments, to treſpaſs often this Way: But you ſhall ſometimes know that the Miſtreſs and the Maid will quarrel, and give each other very free Language, and at laſt the Lady ſhall be pacified to turn her out of Doors, and give her a very good Word to any body elſe. Hence it is that you ſee, in a Year and half's time, the ſame Face a Domeſtick in all Parts of the Town. Good-breeding and Good-nature lead People in a great Meaſure to this Injuſtice: When Suitors of no Conſideration will have Confidence enough to preſs upon their Superiors, thoſe in Power are tender of ſpeaking the Exceptions they have againſt them, and are mortgaged into Promiſes out of their Impatience of Importunity. In this latter Caſe, it would be a very uſeful Enquiry to know the Hiſtory of Recommendations: There are, you muſt know, certain Abettors of this Way of Torment who make it a Profeſſion to manage the Affairs of Candidates: Theſe Gentlemen let out their Impudence to their Clients, and ſupply any defective Recommendation, by informing how ſuch and ſuch a Man is to be attacked. They will tell you, get the leaſt Scrap from Mr. ſuch a one, and leave the reſt to them. When one of theſe Undertakers have your Buſineſs in Hand, you may be ſick, abſent, in Town or Country, and the Patron ſhall be worryed, or you prevail. I remember to have been ſhown a Gentleman, ſome Years ago, who puniſh'd a whole People for their Facility in giving their Credentials. This Perſon had belonged to a Regiment which did Duty in the *Weſt Indies*, and by the Mortality of the Place happened to be commanding Officer in the Colony. He oppreſſed his Subjects with great Frankneſs till he became ſenſible that he was heartily hated by every Man under his Command. When he had carried his Point, to be thus deteſtable, in a pretended Fit of Diſhumour, and feigned Uneaſineſs of living where he found he was ſo univerſally unacceptable, he communicated to the Chief Inhabitants a Deſign he had to return for *England*, provided they would give him ample Teſtimonials of their Approbation. The Planters came into it to a Man, and in proportion to his deſerving the quite contrary, the Words Juſtice, Generoſity, and Courage were inſerted in his Commiſſion, not omitting the general Good-liking of People of all Conditions in the Colony. The Gentleman returns for *England*, and within few Months after came back to them their Governor on the ſtrength of their own Teſtimonials.

Such a Rebuke as this cannot indeed happen to eaſie Recommenders, in the ordinary Courſe of things from one Hand to another; but how would a Man bear to have it ſaid to him, The Perſon I took into Confidence on the Credit you gave him, has proved falſe, unjuſt, and has not anſwered any way the Character you gave me of him.

(Price Two-pence.)

I cannot but conceive very good Hopes of that Rake *Jack Toper* of the *Temple*, for an honeſt Scrupulouſneſs in this Point. A Friend of his meeting with a Servant that had formerly lived with *Jack*, and having a Mind to take him, ſent to him to know what Fault the Fellow had, ſince he could not pleaſe ſuch a careleſs Fellow as he was. His Anſwer was as follows.

SIR,

'*THOMAS* that lived with me was turned 'away becauſe he was too good for me. You 'know I live in Taverns; he is an orderly ſober 'Raſcal, and thinks much to ſleep in an Entry till 'Two in a Morning. He told me one Day when 'he was dreſſing me, that he wondered I was not 'dead before now, ſince I went to Dinner in the 'Evening, and went to Supper at two in the Morn-'ing. We were coming down *Eſſex-ſtreet* one 'Night a little fluſtered, and I was giving him the 'World to alarm the Watch; he had the Impu-'dence to tell me it was againſt the Law. You 'that are Married, and live one Day after another 'the ſame way, and ſo on the whole Week, I 'dare ſay will like him, and he will be glad to 'have his Meat in due ſeaſon. The Fellow is cer-'tainly very Honeſt. My Service to your Lady.

Yours J. T.

Now this was very fair Dealing. *Jack* knew very well, that tho' the Love of Order made a Man very awkard in his Equipage, it was a valuable Quality among the Queer People who live by Rule; and had too much good Senſe and good Nature to let the Fellow ſtarve, becauſe he was not fit to attend his Vivacities.

I ſhall end this Diſcourſe with a Letter of Recommendation from *Horace* to *Claudius Nero*. You will ſee, in that Letter, a Slowneſs to aſk a Favour a ſtrong Reaſon for being unable to deny his good Word any longer, and that it is a Service to the Perſon to whom he recommends, to comply with what is asked: All which are neceſſary Circumſtances, both in Juſtice and Good-breeding, if a Man would aſk ſo as to have Reaſon to complain of a Denyal; and indeed a Man ſhould not in ſtrictneſs aſk otherwiſe. In hopes the Authority of *Horace*, who perfectly underſtood how to live with great Men, may have a good effect towards amending this Facility in People of Condition, and the Confidence of thoſe who apply to them without Merit, I have tranſlated the Epiſtle.

To CLAUDIUS NERO.

SIR,

'*SEPTIMIUS*, who waits upon you with 'this, is very well acquainted with the Place 'you are pleaſed to allow me in your Friendſhip. 'For when he beſeeches me to recommend him 'to your Notice, in ſuch a manner as to be re-'ceived by you, who are delicate in the Choice of 'your Friends and Domeſticks, he knows our Inti-'macy, and underſtands my Ability to ſerve him 'better than I do my ſelf. I have defended my 'ſelf againſt his Ambition to be yours as long as I 'poſſibly could, but fearing the Imputation of hi-'ding my Power in you out of mean and ſelfiſh 'Conſiderations, I am at laſt prevailed upon to give 'you this Trouble. Thus, to avoid the Appear-'ance of a greater Fault, I have put on this Con-'fidence. If you can forgive this Tranſgreſſion 'of Modeſty in behalf of a Friend, receive this 'Gentleman into your Intereſts and Friendſhip, and 'take it from me that he is an Honeſt and a Brave 'Man.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

By her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this preſent Thurſday, being the 25th of September, will be preſented a Comedy call'd the Amorous Widow, or the Wanton Wife. The Part of Barnaby Brittle by Mr. Dogget, the Wanton Wife by Mrs. Oldfield, Lovemore by Mr. Wilks, Cuningham by Mr. Mills, Sir Peter Pride by Mr. Johnſon, Meryman by Mr. Pinkethman, Clodpole by Mr. Bullock, Jeffery by Mr. Pack; Philadelphia by Mrs. Porter, Damaris by Mrs. Bicknell: And on Saturday next will be preſented the laſt new Tragedy call'd The Diſtreſt Mother. By Her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

On Friday the third of October next, John Abrahall with a Coach and able Horſes, Sets out from the Bull-Head the lowerend of Grays-Inn-Lane to bring Company from the Bath This is to give Notice that any Perſon may be carried to Bath, or any other Place on that Road, at a Reaſonable Rate.

A Regular Phyſician that has travelled and ſeen as much of the Venereal Practice, both here and Abroad, as perhaps any one; thinks it may be of Service to inform the Publick, that he has diſcovered one Medicine (a Panacea) that never yet failed curing thoſe inveterate Runnings or Ourings, after ill-cured Injuries, (where the Malignity is eradicated) that are looked upon incurable; as alſo Seminal Effuſions, and conſuming Weepings of the Spermatick veſſels, and parts contiguous. It performs by corroborating and re-ſtoring the Tone of the Parts, which having been debilitated, and loſt their Springineſs by overpurging, the uſe of hot attenuating Medicines, or other force upon Nature, is the general cauſe of thoſe Weakneſſes. Where the Weakneſs has not been of long ſtanding one Pot of it compleats the Cure; but where it has, it may require two, or at the moſt three; but then none will be diſappointed, if they dare take the Word of a Stranger, who is yet a Man of Credit, and may at a convenient Seaſon ſet his Name to this Advertiſement, and inform the Publick of ſome farther Secrets, which he has found out for the Cure of thoſe other obſtinate Venereal Maladies, that puzzle the Efforts of the greateſt Phyſicians. This Panacea is as innocent as Bread, agreeable to the Taſte, and requires no Confinement. He has left it to be diſpoſed of at Mr. Lovel's at the Sign of the Patten and Perriwig over-againſt Great Suffolk-ſtreet near Charing-croſs, at a Guinea a Pot, ſealed up with plain and ſatisfactory Directions, whereby any one may know their Caſes, and whether they have any Malignity or not.

An Infallible Cure for the Stone and Gravel, whether in the Reins or Bladder, by an incomparable Chymical Liquor, which in the moſt Racking Fits, gives inſtant Eaſe, and Perfectly frees the Patient from all Pains in the Back, and thoſe Pains ſo much like the Cholick; dilates the Ureters, makes them ſlippery that ſmall Stones and Gravel may paſs from the Reins to be voided viſibly with Urine, without pain; cleanſes the Kidneys, Bladder, and all the Urinary Paſſages from ſlimy calculous Matter, certainly takes off all Heat, Pain, and Stoppage of Urine, and abſolutely breaks and diſſolves all large Stones (poſſible to be diſſolv'd) whether in Kidneys or Bladder, ſo as entirely to Cure the Diſtemper; aſſuredly prevents the Stone in thoſe that are troubled only with Gravel, and for all Diſorders of the Reins and Bladder, is a ſtupendious Remedy, cauſing delightful Eaſe, pleaſant Reſt and perfect Health. Is ſold only at Jacob's Coffee-houſe againſt the Angel and Crown Tavern in Threadneedle-ſtreet behind the Royal Exchange, at 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in, as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.